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ABSTRACT

This collection of papers focuses on common influences that result in a number of interrelated risk behaviors, summarizing presentations and discussions from a recent conference at which a group of specialists from different health traditions synthesized current knowledge on the subject. There are 39 papers in four parts. Part 1, "Adolescents as Decision Makers," contains papers on "Differing Views of Adolescent Decision Making"; "Affect, Risk Perception, and Behavior"; and "Problem-Solving Approaches." Part 2, "Common Pathways and Influences on Adolescent Risk Behavior," offers papers on "Multiple-Problem Youth"; "Personality and Other Predispositions"; "Peers and Parents"; and "Media Interventions." Part 3, "Perspectives from Different Risk Research Traditions," features papers on "Gambling"; "Sexual Behavior"; "Suicide"; and "Alcohol, Tobacco, and Drugs." Part 4, "Overarching Approaches and Recommendations for Future Research," presents papers on the importance of positive youth development programs, understanding and preventing STDs/HIV among adolescents, and findings and future directions. (Contains approximately 1,500 references.) (SM)

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